**Wellbeing.** Comics made to shock you

PAGE 14

**Education.** Arthur Chu's SAT tricks

PAGE 15

# FILM. NEW MOVIE, NEW EPIC ROAD TRIP

SARANDON BUCKLES UP FOR "TAMMY." PAGE 11

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Monday, July 7, 2014 www.metro.us | t: MetroPhilly | f: MetroPhilly


PLUS

Who's to blame for the Phillies first half?

PAGES 18-19

# 'Worst thing that could ever happen'

**Gone.** A fire ripped through eight row homes early Saturday morning, leaving four children dead and dozens of others displaced.
**Help out.** Clothing, toys and food are being collected at a local church. PAGE 02

Tammy Bell and Ronald Leggett, left, pray at a makeshift memorial after a fire on the 6500 block of Gesner Street in Southwest Philadelphia. Above, Red Cross workers assess damage as balloons and bears, right, are left on a street corner memorial. / CHARLES MOSTOLLER, METRO

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1 NEWS

Local tweet

"Nicki Minaj did Philly wrong on the 4th of July"

Well, that's just your [expletive] opinion, @Funsizzed_Liaa.

Top 3

*What's trending at Metro.us*

1 'Joan Rivers walks out on CNN interview'

2 'Who will Ronda Rousey fight next?'

3 'PHOTOS: 'Colourant' features high-speed colorful images by Floto + Warner'

# Philly to displaced: 'We are all with you'

**Coping.** Community receives an "outpouring of support" after a fatal fire in Southwest Philadelphia.

Lillian Rodriguez, in green, stands in front of her burnt-out home after a fire on the 6500 block of Gesner Street in Southwest Philadelphia that killed four children and made more than 40 people homeless. / CHARLES MOSTOLLER, METRO

The fatal post-Fourth of July fire on Gesner Street that left four children in Southwest Philly dead was still deeply felt on Sunday.

"It's tragic. It's the worst thing that could ever happen," said neighbor Brian Floyd, watching police guard the street as fire department investigators examined eight burnt-out row homes. "It makes you realize how valuable every moment is."

Lost in the fire were three 4-year-olds and a month-old infant, found dead inside the second floor of one of the homes where they were believed to be sleeping.

The cause of the fire has not been officially determined. Neighbors said it was fireworks.

"They have to be banned. It's dangerous," said neighbor William Wade.

Wade said the woman whose month-old baby and 4-year-old died in the fire was his tenant, and that she went to Gesner Street for a barbecue.

Since the fire, he has not seen her.

"They were her only children," he said.

About 42 Gesner Street residents were displaced by the fire. Red Cross workers said everyone requiring emergency housing and services was supplied by Sunday afternoon.

Meanwhile, International Church of Christ (ICC), at the corner of 65th and Gesner, rapidly filled their basement Sunday with donated goods for the displaced families.

"This outpouring of love and support tells the families that you don't have to carry your burden alone, we are all with you," said Pastor Napoleon Divine of the ICC.

While Ladder 4 firefighters based across the street responded at 2:50 a.m., the station's Engine 40 was responding to an automobile fire at the time, confirmed Jim Griffith of the Philadelphia Police Department Communication Center. Engine 68, based two miles away, was the first responder to provide water-pumping power. The time they arrived was unknown.

Visit **Metro.us** for details on how to help the displaced families.

Quoted

"We're going to collect donations until they have everything they need."

Darron Jones, ICC member

SAM NEWHOUSE
@scnewhouse
sam.newhouse@metro.us

# BSL extension still on hold

Extending the Broad Street Line subway 1.5 miles into the Navy Yard doesn't seem far.

"Unfortunately," said Byron Cromati, SEPTA's director of strategic planning, "it's a major undertaking one way or another."

As SEPTA starts to chip away at its backlog of projects, thanks to funding from the state's $2.3 billion transportation funding bill approved last year, Metro asks SEPTA's planner for an update on the much-discussed subway extension project.

The project, which could cost anywhere between $500 million and $1 billion, would give employees of companies based in the business park an alternative to cars and shuttle buses.

The business park is home to large companies, including the U.S. headquarters for GlaxoSmithKline and the corporate headquarters of Urban Outfitters.

Cromati said a major sticking point is the large amount of employees who drive to work from New Jersey on I-95.

"It's relatively simple. Yeah, it can get congested, but it's not hard to do because the road network is rich here," Cromati said. "And, bluntly, a Broad Street subway extension may not help a person from New Jersey too easily."

TOMMY ROWAN

**Home is where the BSL is**

**If more residential housing options were added to the Navy Yard, that would change the face of the discussion, Cromati said.**

- The Courtyard Marriott hotel, which recently opened, is a great first step, but the majority of ridership can't just be employees, he said.
- "I'm not sure that the Navy Yard is yet at that critical threshold where it's anything but an employment center."

Center City

## Off-duty cop opens fire

A Philadelphia Housing Authority officer fired his weapon at a 23-year-old man who attempted to run him over in Center City early Sunday, police said.

The officer said a man driving a 2012 white Dodge Charger pulled out a gun and pointed it at him after the officer honked his horn to try and force the driver to move his vehicle around 1:43 a.m. on the 500 block of South Eighth Street, police said.

The officer told police he then drew his weapon and identified himself. The man then jumped into his car and drove at the officer, who jumped out of the way and fired at the driver's windshield.

TOMMY ROWAN

Back to normal

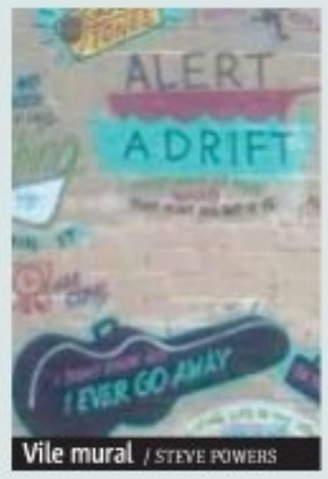
## Kurt Vile mural restored

Muralgate has now come to an end: The Kurt Vile mural at Front and Masters streets in Fishtown has been restored to its original luster.

According to multiple reports, the building's owners realized on Thursday the paint used by DJ Lee Mayjahs to deface the mural last week was easily erased with a good power wash.

The artist, Steve Powers, expressed his appreciation on Instagram.

"Guess who's back? Its not beanie, jay-z or fitty, Its Cool Kurt Vile not Conway Twitty. THANK YOU." METRO




Vile mural / STEVE POWERS

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3. *Bring a Loved One or Friend*
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# CIGARETTE TAX IS NOT RELIABLE FOR SCHOOLS

Independent insight

## MATTHEW M. TURNER

Matthew M. Turner is a columnist for Metro Philadelphia. You can reach him at matthewmturner@hotmail.com.

*Metro does not endorse the opinions of the author.*

The budget is now solely in Gov. Tom Corbett's court, after the Legislature passed it on July 1. But will he sign it? Will he veto it?

The governor has shown few signs as to what he plans to do. He's got until July 11 to make a decision. Predictions on his decision have been mixed, but Corbett is an unpopular governor with low approval ratings and an approaching election; he's become a lame duck with little power over his own party.

The Republican-constructed budget doesn't please Corbett. Republicans left out pension reform for state employees — something Corbett has been pushing for to help rein in state spending. The budget also left out another goal the governor has failed to achieve: privatizing the state's liquor sales.

Quoted

**When smokers start quitting, buying cigarettes outside the city or turn to the black market, the taxes raised will decrease.**

Both privatizing liquor sales (a no-brainer) and reforming the pension system are both topics that should be widely popular with Pennsylvanians, but Corbett has failed to connect the dots in a meaningful way with voters.

Another aspect of the budget that goes against the governor's "no new taxes" pledge is the legislature approving a $2 cigarette tax in Philadelphia. The cigarette tax will aid the city's public school system. Philadelphia's school system continues to find itself in a multimillion-dollar budget shortfall. After some debate, and pressure from Mayor Michael Nutter and others like the city council, the legislature was convinced the plan was a good idea. The vote passed the Pennsylvania House of Representatives by a 119 to 80 vote.

The money raised from a cigarette tax is estimated to be around $45 million in the first year and double that in years to come. This number, often cited in news reports, could be a bit misleading for years to come. It's likely that number is unrealistic. When smokers start quitting, buying cigarettes outside the city or turn to the black market, the taxes raised will decrease. In New York, for example, where cigarettes taxes are some of the highest in the nation, the state also leads in illegal cigarette smuggling and sales. Philadelphia will also soon rank high in that department.

The fact is the cigarette tax will likely be an unreliable way to fund the Philadelphia school system.

This method was chosen because smokers are a vulnerable and demonized group politically, not because it was the best method to keep the school system afloat.

Corbett has remained quiet on these issues. His moves in the days ahead will further prove whether he is a lame duck.

It's likely, in my opinion, he will sign the budget. Although he clearly is not happy with the outcome.

Bonnie and Clyde

## Man who led police chase sentenced

One half of Philadelphia's newest Bonnie and Clyde team, the 25-year-old Macungie resident who along with his girlfriend stole a police car and led authorities on a chase from Camden to Philadelphia in March of 2013, was sentenced to 17 years in state prison. METRO

The duo

- Blake Bills had previously pleaded guilty to carjacking and eluding after he and his girlfriend binged on heroin and cocaine and started their joy ride.
- Shayna Sykes, awaiting trial, had also pleaded guilty to theft and assault. She could face a similar sentence.

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## Super Scooping for a wonderful cause

Frank, 6, joined hundreds of people who visited the Super Scooper All-You-Can-Eat Ice Cream Festival at Penn's Landing on Sunday, trying out dozens of types of ice cream and supporting the Joshua Kahan Fund, which works to fight pediatric leukemia. / CHARLES MOSTOLLER, METRO

Parent University

## Parents can learn about Meatless Mondays

Parent University is starting a monthly class today to talk about Meatless Mondays, a program debuting in the school district this year.

It will teach the community about the health benefits of reducing meat intake, starting with the caregivers of Philadelphia's students.

"If we really want to combat obesity, we need to look at how much meat we're eating," said Rachel Atcheson, director of the local Humane League.

For more info, visit www.philasd.org/face.

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14-year veteran

## New York firefighter dies battling high-rise blaze

A New York City firefighter recently honored for saving the life of a

7-year-old boy was killed while battling a blaze at a high-rise apartment building, fire department officials said Sunday.

Gordon Matthew Ambelas, 40, a 14-year veteran of the New York City Fire Department, was among more than 100 firefighters that responded to the fast-moving blaze at the Brooklyn building late on Saturday, officials said.

Ambelas was searching the 19th floor for trapped residents when he was overcome by flames and smoke, New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio said in a late-night press conference. REUTERS

# Six Jewish suspects arrested over death of Palestinian teen

**Investigation.** Israel's Shin Bet security agency said the suspects were being questioned at one of its installations.

Members of Neturei Karta, a small faction of anti-Zionist ultra-Orthodox Jews who oppose Israel's existence, hold pictures of Palestinian youth Mohammed Abu Khudair. / GETTY IMAGES

Israel has arrested six Jewish suspects in the abduction and killing of a Palestinian teenager whose death sparked violent protests in Jerusalem and Israeli Arab towns, a security source said on Sunday.

The security source gave no details about the suspects arrested in the investigation into the abduction and killing of Mohammed Abu Khudair, 16, other than to say they were Jewish and that police saw "nationalist motives" in the case. A police spokesman said a gag order had been imposed on most details of the case, commenting only that police had "arrested a number of Jewish suspects who carried out the killing."

Abu Khudair's burnt body was discovered in a Jerusalem forest on Wednesday. REUTERS

**By the numbers**

**16**

The burning-alive of 16-year-old Mohammed Abu Khudair, and the earlier murders of three kidnapped Israeli teenagers, have driven relations between Palestinians and Israelis to their lowest point since U.S.-backed peace talks broke down in April.

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# OMG! The world's tiniest wireless earbuds are 'magically small'

Discreet headphones without those annoying, tangling wires? That's music to our ears! Introducing the Earin, the world's smallest wireless earphones. The concept behind these clutter-free in-ear speakers was inspired by the 2008 rom-com "Definitely, Maybe," which sees actor Ryan Reynolds wearing two minimalist earbuds on the way to work. "Back then, the technology required for the earbuds was not available, but now we've got our first prototypes," Swedish designer and founder of the Earin, Olle Linden, told Metro.

The headphones are now in the funding process on Kickstarter. / OLLE LINDEN

Visit us online at **Metro.us/omg** for more interviews.

**Wireless earphones: Are they the future?**
It's indeed the future, and they have many benefits. We developed this product because when listening to music, we often move around a bit. The cables always get stuck somewhere, and then we tend to pull the earbuds out of the ears. Another issue with cables is the sound they make when they rub on our clothes or whatever. Plus, they're almost invisible to the world — which is nice.

**What's the sound like?**
The Earin uses Bluetooth technology called AptX, which we call "lossless." This means that compared to a wire, you will not hear any difference at all. All information that you could be heard via a cable is transferred wirelessly, so basically it doesn't matter if you have cables or not, from an audio perspective.

It runs on rechargeable batteries, but they can explode from time to time.

**How safe are they?**
There are concerns regarding safety. But we have been very cautious about choosing our supplier since we want a trustworthy source. The batteries are actually the single most expensive component — but from a safety perspective, we believe it's worth it. Our supplier has tested these batts to withstand temperatures of 130 degrees Celsius. **WANISE MARTINEZ, METRO WORLD NEWS**

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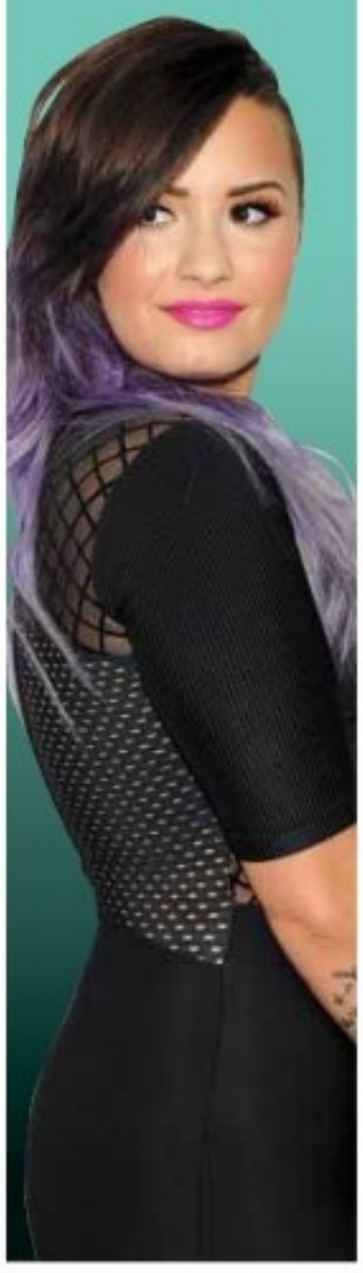
# CULTURE

**Frenemies**

## BFF minus the 'forever' for Lovato and Gomez

**Demi Lovato unfollowed former friend Selena Gomez on Twitter. Drama! She posted then quickly deleted a rather cryptic tweet: "Swimming away from the bulls—bye b—h." "Demi tried to help Selena with her substance problems and getting rid of Justin from her life and it is apparent Selena refused to listen to Demi's advice," a source says, according to Hollywood Life.**



1

## Simpson is a newlywed again

Jessica Simpson and Eric Johnson were married over the weekend in front of 250 friends and family at the luxurious San Ysidro Ranch, located in Montecito in Santa Barbara County, California, according to E! Online. The big day comes after months of planning and several years of engagement, as Simpson first confirmed her plans to marry Johnson in November 2010. They have two children together, 2-year-old daughter Maxwell and 1-year-old son Ace. As Simpson explained during a visit to "Good Morning America" earlier this year, there were no fears of either getting cold feet at this point. "I already feel like we're an old married couple," she said. "Like, if he wanted to run, he could've run when I was hormonal and pregnant."

After a four-year engagement, Simpson and Johnson tied the knot.
ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

## THE WORD

Ned Ehrbar takes on the world of gossip.

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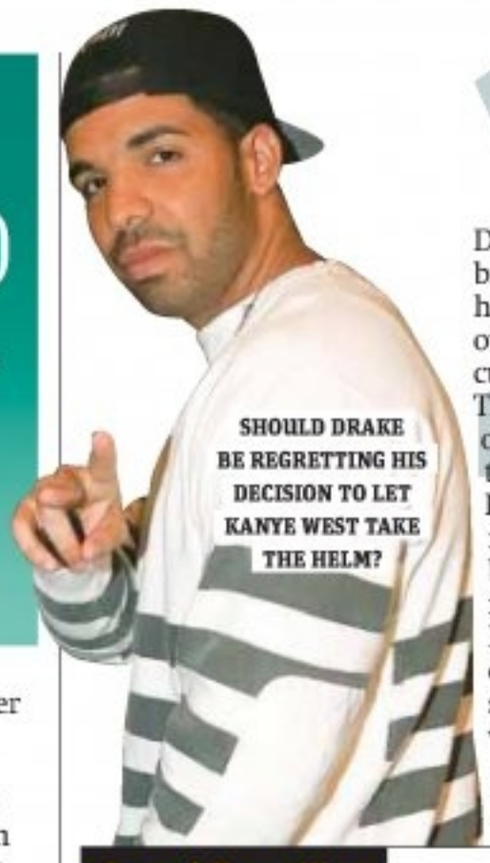

SHOULD DRAKE BE REGRETTING HIS DECISION TO LET KANYE WEST TAKE THE HELM?

2

## Calling on Kanye West gets expected results

Drake may want to take a bit more care in selecting his next substitute to help out while he's felled by his current mystery illness. The rapper had to bow out of a recent appearance at the Wireless Festival in London and figured he'd make it up to the crowd by sending Kanye West in his place, according to Pitchfork. But West had other ideas about how to spend the evening. West, who performed with an odd-looking mask obscuring his face, stopped the show for a 15-minute rant, his auto-tuned words accompanied by a booing audience: "I'm not going to call no names, I'm not going to say Nike or anything. I'm not dissing Louis Vuitton, I'm not dissing the Gucci group and s—," he shouted. "I'm just saying, don't discriminate against me because I'm a black man, or because I'm a celebrity, to determine that I can't create. 'Cause, you know, no black guy or celebrity's making no Louis Vuitton nothing."

**Quoted: Kanye West**

**"I'm just saying, don't discriminate against me because I'm a black man, or because I'm a celebrity, to determine that I can't create. 'Cause, you know, no black guy or celebrity's making no Louis Vuitton nothing."**

**Talking point**

3

## Biebs losing Gomez?

Justin Bieber returned to his favorite city for getting into trouble, Miami, and boarded a yacht for a private party filled with booze and scantily clad women. Photos show the 20-year-old slugging back beers, entertaining guests and wearing several types of hats but exactly zero shirts. The only thing missing from the party? On-again, off-again girlfriend Selena Gomez, who was living it up back in Los Angeles, celebrating the holiday at a party at Mastro's Ocean Club in Malibu.

BIEBS, ON A BOAT

But sources say the separation wasn't Bieber's idea, as he reportedly asked Gomez to spend the Fourth with him but she told him to buzz off. And speaking of independence, RadarOnline decided to celebrate the holiday weekend by posting a poll asking readers, "Should Selena dump Justin for good?" Over 90 percent answered yes.

## Hop Chef. Jennifer Choplin is going up against the guys as the first female competitor in Philly

It's typical to see nothing but guys' names on some of our favorite food-related events — which puts added pressure on Jennifer Choplin.

Choplin, who recently took over the kitchen at Dock Street Brewery, is the first woman to participate in Ommegang's annual Hop Chef competition, a multi-city battle that challenges chefs to create a dish that perfectly incorporates and complements an Ommegang brew. This is the third year Philly is getting into the action; the winner from each city moves on to the big showdown at Brewery Ommegang in Cooperstown, New York.

"It's slightly overwhelming," says Choplin, who admits it's a nail-biting affair to go up against other chefs such as James Kenngott of Strangelove's, Travis Masar of Sampan and the upcoming Independence Beer Garden, Jeremy Nolen of Brauhaus Schmitz, Ben Puchowitz of Cheu Noodle Bar, Chad Vetter of City Tap House, Townsend Wentz of Townsend and the brother team of Jonathan and Justin Petruce of Petruce et al.

"The more I research the other competitors, the more intimidating it becomes," she says. "But then it just makes me more and more determined to win."

JULIA WEST

See the chefs compete July 8 at 6 p.m. at Union Transfer (1026 Spring Garden, www.utphilly.com). Tickets are $41. / PROVIDED

**Tweet it out**

## Talking trash

Ommegang encourages Hop Chef contestants to blow up their Twitter feeds with trash talk against their opponents. "The Petruce Twitter account has *tried* to trash talk," Choplin says, sounding less than impressed with their efforts — which might be her own form of dissing the competition.

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# On the road again

Melissa McCarthy plays Sarandon's granddaughter, despite there being only 24 years between them. / WARNER BROS. PICTURES

Susan Sarandon is out to cause trouble as the alcoholic grandmother in "Tammy." / GETTY IMAGES

**Interview.** Susan Sarandon didn't realize "Tammy" had similarities to "Thelma and Louise."

Twenty-five years after "Thelma and Louise," Susan Sarandon is taking a different kind of on-screen road trip with "Tammy." Sarandon stars as the alcoholic, pill-popping grandmother to the titular Tammy (Melissa McCarthy), out to cause trouble across the Midwest.

**You've been doing a lot of interesting smaller projects lately. And even this, though it stars Melissa McCarthy, is from a first-time director.**
Mark Duplass called me and told me to do this one, and then Mark and Jay Duplass called me to tell me to do "Ping Pong Summer." I always feel like if someone asks you to … help get a film up, and it's a one-and-a-half-week commitment, that's a hell of a lot easier than a month and a half.

**I would imagine that happens a lot: smaller projects with first-time directors seeking you out.**
Yes. And you know, sometimes it works and other times it's very frustrating. First-time directors are very often trampled on by whoever buys it or the studio or whoever. … I mean "producer" is probably the job you can be the least qualified for. There can be nine producers on a movie — you know, they gave a little bit of money or knew somebody or whatever. But on this, everybody that was involved really, I felt, was very protective and very positive and lent their expertise.

**Do you connect this film to "Thelma and Louise" at all?**
It's so funny that we didn't think of "Thelma and Louise." … It didn't really come up while we were filming. And then a year later when we went to do the press photo shoot, they had a convertible and a desert setting, and I said, "Are you sure you want to do that? We're about to have another anniversary for 'Thelma and Louise,' and I think there's going to be a lot of that." And they were like, "Oh, my god, I never thought of that." And they struck the car! They took the car away! But while we were filming, it didn't actually come up. Maybe because it wasn't as cool a car.

**Or as serious a story.**
Right. Although I don't know, I think of "Thelma and Louise" as being funny up and until the end.

**Back in the day**

**Speaking of "Thelma and Louise," so far during your press tour, how many people have asked to take a selfie with you?**
[Laughs] Nobody, nobody! Oh no, one on-camera reporter did. That's so funny that it became such a big thing. We just did it as an afterthought. And then we were doing the interview for the Hollywood Reporter, and at the end of it, I said, "Let's just do one," and we did one with my phone. [My dog] Penny tweeted it, and now it's a thing.

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One of those Transformers the kids love shoots a bunch of bullets. / PARAMOUNT PICTURES

# 'Transformers' tramples 'Tammy'

**Box office.** The 'bots crushed the competition over the long weekend.

"Transformers: Age of Extinction" collected $36.4 million in ticket sales over the three-day July 4 weekend, storming ahead of new films "Tammy," "Deliver Us from Evil" and "Earth to Echo" to lead the U.S. and Canadian box office for a second consecutive weekend.

The special effects–laden blockbuster, starring Mark Wahlberg and a cast of form-changing robots, had the year's biggest opening weekend a week ago with $100 million in sales.

The comedy "Tammy," starring Melissa McCarthy as a fast food worker who has a very bad day, was second with $21.2 million, according to studio estimates. Horror film "Deliver Us from Evil" generated sales of $9.5 million for third place.

"Transformers: Age of Extinction" has enjoyed a huge worldwide reception, generating more than $212 million in China alone, where it had a flashy star-studded premiere. The film has generated more than $575 million globally, according to box office tracking firm Rentrak. "Tammy" fell short of industry experts' $24 million estimate on the heels of weak reviews. The film, which received a "fresh" rating from only 29 of 111 reviewers tabulated by Rotten Tomatoes, was written by McCarthy and her husband Ben Falcone, who also directed.

**Top earners**

1. 'Transformers: Age of Extinction' $36.4 million
2. 'Tammy' $21.2 million
3. 'Deliver Us from Evil' $9.5 million
4. '22 Jump Street' $9.4 million
5. 'How to Train Your Dragon 2' $8.75 million

The movie, made for a relatively inexpensive $20 million, features a high-voltage cast including Susan Sarandon as Tammy's grandmother, Dan Aykroyd as her father and Kathy Bates as a cousin.

"Deliver Us from Evil" stars Australian actor Eric Bana as a New York City cop who solves a case which he believes involves the devil. The movie is based on the investigative experiences of New York policeman Ralph Sarchie, who developed a knowledge of demonology which he used in many cases.

Paramount Pictures, a unit of Viacom, distributed "Transformers: Age of Extinction." "Tammy" was released by Time Warner's studio Warner Brothers. Sony distributed "Deliver Us from Evil" and "22 Jump Street." REUTERS

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# Joel McHale wants to be an action star

**Interview.** The "Community" actor got to play with knives in "Deliver Us from Evil."

Joel McHale wants everyone to know he can be a badass if need be. His latest film, the supernatural thriller "Deliver Us from Evil," is something of a departure for the "Community" star and "The Soup" host — and that's exactly why he did it. Well, that and he got to play with knives a whole bunch.

Joel McHale stretches out into dramatic horror in the exorcism saga "Deliver Us from Evil." / WIREIMAGE

**You've got a pretty badass fight scene in this film. Is that meant to be your sort of "Hey, look at me" for action movie producers?**
Yes. In fact, at the end of the movie my character sits up and says, "Hey, action movie producers, what else do you want?" [Laughs] No one's called, but I'll take the calls.

**You do handle yourself quite convincingly in the fight scenes.**
Oh good. I worked my ass off to make sure that looked real. So many people have been like, "Was it hard going from comedy into drama?" No. It was hard learning to knife fight. My greatest concern was that if I looked slow or it looked amateur or anything like that then it would suck. I wanted it to look blindingly fast.

**Don't most cops pull a gun on suspects instead of a knife, though?**
Right, yes. But guns are no fun when you've got knives. My character is psychotic in that he prefers knives. He would much rather just stick you a couple of times. I think my character would probably be a criminal if he weren't in law enforcement.

**Wearing a Red Sox hat around the South Bronx is a sign of mental issues.**
Yeah. I got s— walking around the set. But he does things just to agitate people. He likes to be contrary.

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**What else are you looking to do in film besides the obvious "Community" movie that will be made any day now?**
It will be made, and it will be bigger than the "Pirates of the Caribbean" franchise. [Laughs] I've been doing "The Soup" live, and I spent the entire spring preparing for the White House Correspondents' Dinner. That was an intense amount of preparation. And now I've just been kind of getting to know my children again.

**How do you think the Correspondents' Dinner went?**
I know that some critics didn't like it, while other critics liked it. That crowd, they're going to be divided. Get this, they're going to be partisan. Boy, I had a ball doing it. And I got to freaking entertain the president of the United States. He seemed to like it, other than the drone strikes joke.

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Palombo's work shows that behind a couple's happy faces can lurk something many either ignore or may not even notice. / PROVIDED

# 'What kind of man are you?'

**Domestic violence.** An Italian artist wants people to realize abuse can happen to anyone.

EVA KIS
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They are faces you've seen, but never like this. They're families you've shared dinner with, women whose adventures you've read about, men who could be your neighbors — people you think you know.

That's the point of Italian artist AleXsandro Palombo's latest "social campaign," No Violence Against Women, which calls attention to domestic abuse through the battered faces of famous cartoon women and their partners.

"I've decided to launch this new series because I wanted to give visibility to a problem that affects a great amount of women all over the world," he told Metro in an email.

Palombo is known to make his points through cultural icons — he previously depicted fashion moguls including Vogue's Anna Wintour and Karl Lagerfeld wearing Bambi for an anti-fur ad. This time, he chose the familiar faces to make a point: that domestic violence is so prevalent, its victims and perpetrators could be anyone.

"Have you ever seen a very normal couple walking on the street, and then a glimpse of the woman's face, bruised? In many cases, monsters are apparently very normal people," he said.

According to a 2013 study published in the journal Science, more than 20 percent of women ages 15 and older in North America have suffered some form of violence by their boyfriend or husband.

Breaking domestic violence laws, where they exist, should be met with severe punishment, Palombo said, but hopes his work inspires a more personal call to action: "In my opinion, they should be men themselves to fight against men who abuse women all over the world."

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# Take the SATs like a game show champ

**Strategy.** Arthur Chu of "Jeopardy!" fame turns his gaming insight to standardized tests.

Arthur Chu won nearly $300,000 dollars over the course of his winning streak. / JEOPARDY!

Arthur Chu amazed and infuriated an equal number of "Jeopardy!" fans this spring when his unique approach to the game led him to win nearly $300,000 over the course of 11 games.

Chu's style of play was unusually aggressive and involved what many commentators referred to as "game theory."

As we watched Chu's historic run, we began to wonder if his methods could be applied to tests like the SAT.

He shares these tips with students.

## The writing section is simpler than you think

Chu says there is no need to be intimidated by this section. "If I were teaching the SATs now, I would never teach how to write a perfect literary essay. But you can teach students how to write an essay that will score well."

Tip

## Look for patterns

"I actually taught SAT prep a few years ago," says Chu. The trick to mastering the exam is to study past exams to get a feel for the patterns the test-makers tend to follow.

Test-takers should keep in mind that the educators that write the questions are striving to be as balanced as possible, and any question that seems to harshly criticize a character or historical event is likely incorrect, he says.

## Be conscious of all of your choices

"A lot of people psych themselves out when it comes to the SAT," says Chu. They think of the test as an all-important thing. But a game is like a test in that it's being created by an institution that has a goal to achieve."

## It's about repetition

"The big message is that the SAT doesn't test how smart you are, it tests how good you are at taking a test," Chu notes.



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# BE MORE PRODUCTIVE AND AVOID DISTRACTIONS

Companies are putting more pressure on employees than ever before.

A new study by CareerBuilder found that the biggest distractions that workers have are their cell phones (50 percent), gossip (42 percent) and the Internet (39 percent). Here are some tips for being more productive at work:

## Start with tasks to complete quickly

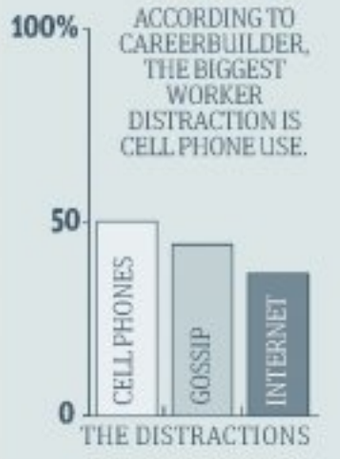
This way, you can get the smaller stuff out of the way and give more of your attention and effort to the bigger projects.

## Use a calendar

I use my iPhone calendar to run my life. One trick I've learned is to set two reminders for every event. One occurs a day before and the other is for 15 minutes before the appointment.

Are you surfing the Web when you should be working? / LIGHTWAVEMEDIA

**Pardon the interruption**




**Jobs advice**

## DAN SCHAWBEL

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Dan Schawbel is a workplace expert, keynote speaker, and author of The New York Times best-selling book, "Promote Yourself: The New Rules For Career Success."

## Try not to multitask

Research shows that multitasking decreases productivity. Be sure to give each individual task the attention it deserves.

*Metro does not endorse the opinions of the author.*

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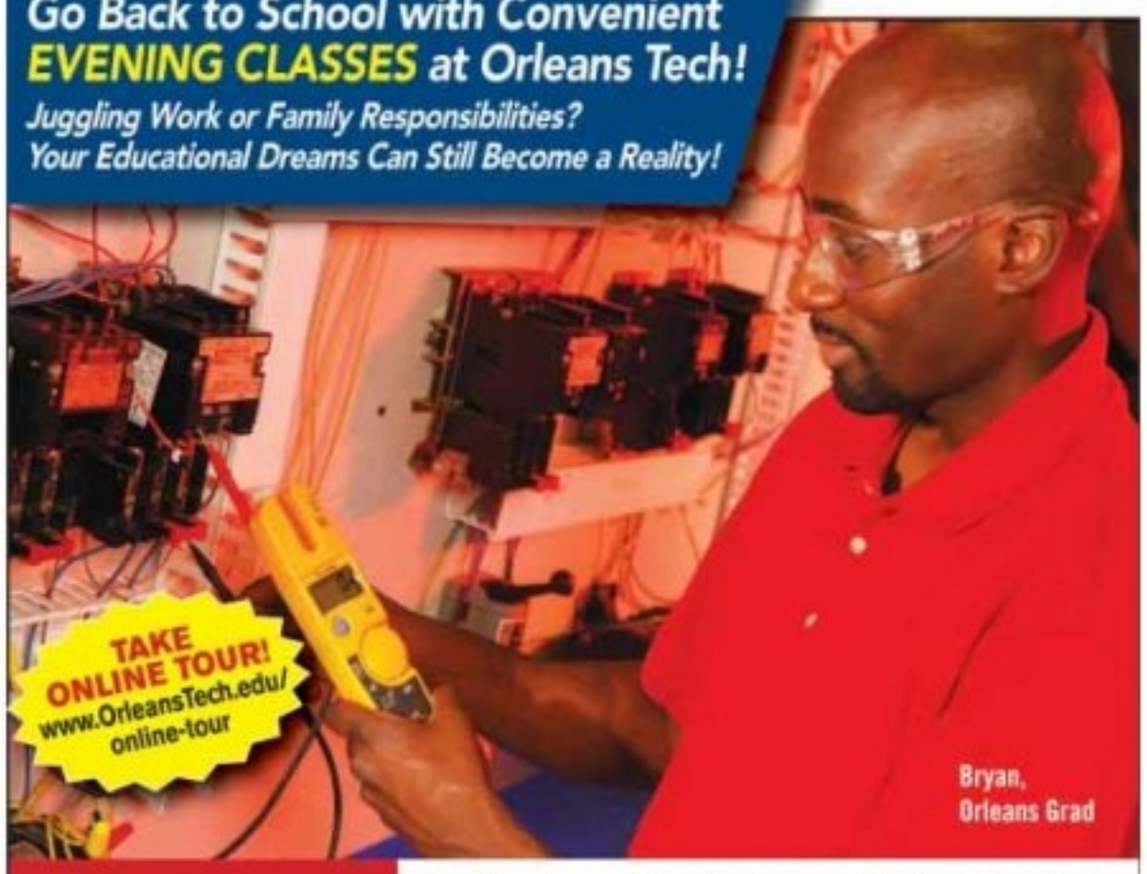

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*National Research Council. (2003) Elder mistreatment: Abuse, neglect and exploitation in an aging America. Washington, D.C.: The National Academies Press

## Horoscope

**♋ Cancer | June 21-July 22.** People will think you're pushy if you try to make plans for everyone around you. Listen and learn.

**♌ Leo | July 23-Aug. 22.** Show some consideration. Not everyone will opt to do things your way. Give your friends and family breathing room while you master your skills.

**♍ Virgo | Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** Make your own decisions. Let everyone know that you won't be pressured into doing something that goes against your morals and beliefs. Take control.

**♎ Libra | Sept. 23-Oct. 22.** You'll have plenty of energy today. No one will be able to keep up with you, making it easy for you to outdo the competition.

**♏ Scorpio | Oct. 23-Nov. 21.** An escalating problem in a personal relationship could lead to estrangement if it's not handled discreetly.

**♐ Sagittarius | Nov. 22-Dec. 21.** Don't assume that everyone who asks for a donation is with a legitimate organization. If you are at all suspicious about the request, walk away.

**♑ Capricorn | Dec. 22-Jan. 20.** Opposition will set you back. If you find a way to compromise, it will be easier to reach your goals. Keep life simple.

**♒ Aquarius | Jan. 21-Feb. 18.** Friends and colleagues will be bowled over by your unique ideas. Find a platform where you can present your vision.

**♓ Pisces | Feb. 19-March 20.** It's necessary to keep up-to-date with your banking records. Go over your statements meticulously and investigate any questionable withdrawals.

**♈ Aries | March 21-April 20.** If someone is not being honest, ask direct questions. You can't enter into an endeavor if you don't know where you stand.

**♉ Taurus | April 21-May 21.** You will feel stressed when dealing with relationships. Take a step back from the situation before you do or say anything.

**♊ Gemini | May 22-June 20.** Take a break from your routine. You deserve a rest, and spending some time outdoors or simply relaxing will help your state of mind. BERNICE BEDE OSOL

## Sudoku: Easy and hard

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | 9 | 1 | | 5 |
| 1 | 2 | | 6 | 4 | | | | 7 |
| | | 8 | | | 3 | | | |
| | 8 | 6 | | | 1 | | 9 | |
| | | | 3 | | 4 | | | |
| | 7 | | 2 | | | 6 | 3 | |
| | | | 1 | | | 5 | | |
| 8 | | | | 5 | 6 | | 7 | 3 |
| 9 | | 5 | 4 | | | | | |

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 7 | | 8 | | | 6 | | |
| 3 | | 6 | 9 | | | | | |
| 8 | | | | 1 | | | | 2 |
| | | 2 | | 3 | | 9 | | 1 |
| | 1 | | | | | | 4 | |
| 4 | | 5 | | 6 | | 3 | | |
| 2 | | | | 4 | | | | 9 |
| | | | | | 8 | 4 | | 7 |
| | | 7 | | | 1 | | 8 | 3 |

**How to play**
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

## Letters

### *Women get a raw deal*

**Re: 'Pursuit of pleasure not protected' (Metro, July 3-6)** The reason women are upset about the Supreme Court's Hobby Lobby decision is an undercurrent in the letter from Justin Dobbs. Women carry the burden of unprotected sex, not men. If a child is the result, a man can just walk away, but the pregnant woman must decide to carry a baby to term or abort the fetus. This is the harsh reality of the gender difference. Abortion is a heartbreaking act, which in my opinion, should not be used as a form of birth control. I don't understand why birth control is under attack — is it not better to prevent an unwanted child rather than to abort it?
MARION LANE, VIA EMAIL

### *No one's taking your birth control*

You would think every woman in America will no longer have access to birth control products. You just have to do a little research (not much) to find out that 16 contraception items will still be paid for by Hobby Lobby for their employees. Four products will no longer be paid for, and the women who want them will have to pay for them by themselves. No one has taken away a woman's right to choose any contraception item.
J. BACHMAN, VIA EMAIL

**letters@metro.us**

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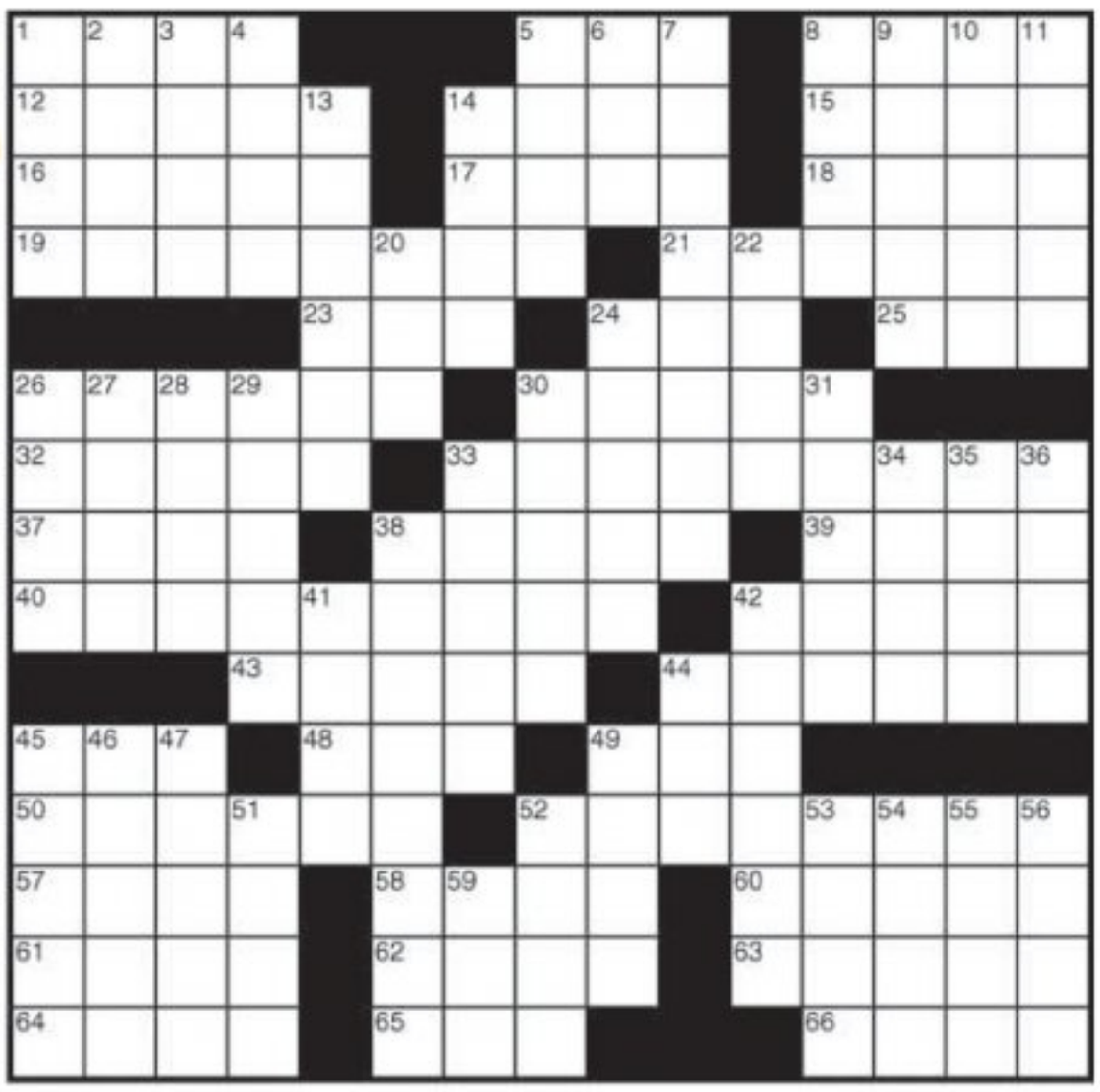
**Use your smartphone to find today's crossword answers! Download and open the Blippar app on your smartphone and hold the screen over the puzzle.**

## Crossword

**Across**
1 Jokesters
5 Cat or turkey
8 Checkbook no.
12 Certain wolf
14 Feng —
15 Wave cutter
16 Chicago's airport
17 Mack and Turner
18 Blister or scrape
19 Gradually diminish (2 wds.)
21 Curly or Moe
23 Bro or sis
24 Whirlpool locale
25 Frontier's — Carson
26 "Venus" singer
30 Spreads out, as a map
32 Playing card
33 Shining on and off
37 Mingle
38 Clan leader
39 Gas or tel.
40 Dentist's supply
42 Sticky-footed lizard
43 Unfledged
44 A nut
45 Tooth-fillers' org.
48 Demolition need
49 Finish
50 Shop equivalent (2 wds.)
52 Wallaby or joey
57 Mild rejoinder
58 Frau's spouse
60 Checkups
61 Dress style
62 Fiendish
63 Entirety
64 Find a chair for
65 — Plaines, Ill.
66 Mad emperor

**Down**
1 Pooch's comment
2 Turkish official
3 In a buoyant mood
4 Desiccated
5 The other guys
6 Belly dance instrument
7 Squander
8 Lhasa —
9 Ponzi scheme operator
10 Welsh dog
11 Bird's melody
13 Motive
14 Wild guess
20 Prevail
22 Skimpy pullover
24 Steeple top
26 Club, briefly
27 Nix
28 Tel —
29 Bad, bad Brown of song
30 In debt
31 Swings around
33 Pollute
34 Have a need to scratch
35 Running shoe name
36 Burn softly
38 Put to sea
41 Sheepfold
42 Gizmo
44 News network
45 Throat clearers
46 Ranch stray
47 Fridge maker
49 Tarzan's title
51 Shorten an article
52 Mr. Kristofferson
53 Nerve-cell part
54 Hourly fee
55 Sharif or Bradley
56 Nobel Prize city
59 Festive night



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3 SPORTS

Wild Wimbeldon final

## Djokovic outlasts Federer

Novak Djokovic won his second career Wimbeldon title Sunday, battling 17-time Grand Slam champion Roger Federer for five sets in a dramatic final. The Serbian wasted a 5-2 lead and couldn't close a match point in the fourth set, but still managed to win.

# Grading the Phillies

With more than one half of the season in the books and the All-Star break approaching next week, here's an in-depth breakdown of what went wrong in the Phillies' lackluster first half.

**ED CONDRAN**
sports@metro.us

Cole Hamels is pitching lights out — but his run support is among the worst in the majors.

## The starters

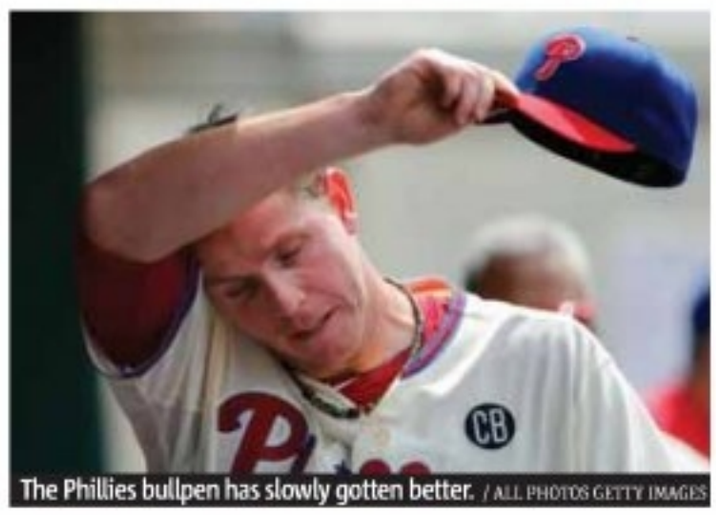
**Cole Hamels:** Hamels started the season on the disabled list, but he has been very good to solid since returning to the rotation. King Cole was outstanding in June, posting a 1.23 ERA. But He was just 1-1 during that 30-day stretch. **Grade: B+**

**A.J. Burnett:** He's pitched decently through his hernia. Burnett has had his ups and downs but could provide value come trade time. **Grade: C+**

**Kyle Kendrick:** Like a cardiogram, Kendrick's season so far has been up and down. You never know what you'll get from Kendrick, except that you can typically count on a rough first inning. **Grade: C**

**David Buchanan:** The kid has pitched decently. He needs pinpoint control to compete and he's been sharp in many games. **Grade: C**

**Roberto Hernandez:** If the big, burly pitcher was a fifth starter for a true contender, he would have a pretty good record. Hernandez will typically give up three or four runs over six innings. **Grade: C-**



The Phillies bullpen has slowly gotten better. / ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

## The bullpen

**Jonathan Papelbon:** The Phillies' expensive closer has lost some velocity, but the wily veteran has figured out how to deal without his electric stuff. Pap has been reliable and has yet to blow up in the clubhouse. **Grade: B**

**Justin De Fratus:** It's about time some of these young bullpen arms have come around. De Fratus has been very impressive since he has returned from Triple-A. **Grade: B**

**Jake Diekman:** Diekman is a work in progress who dominates left-handed hitters but still has trouble with batters on the right side. All four of the homers he has allowed have been due to hanging sliders. He has so much potential. **Grade: C+**

**Antonio Bastardo:** The lefty is one of the biggest enigmas on the club. He has the stuff but he can't harness it. **Grade: C-**

**Ken Giles:** It'll be interesting to see what Giles does when he's in pressure situations. So far, he looks like he belongs. That's not just due to the 100 mph fastball. The kid has confidence and composure. **Grade: Incomplete**

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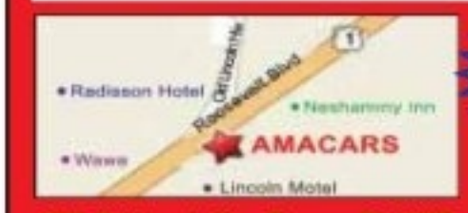


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## The infielders

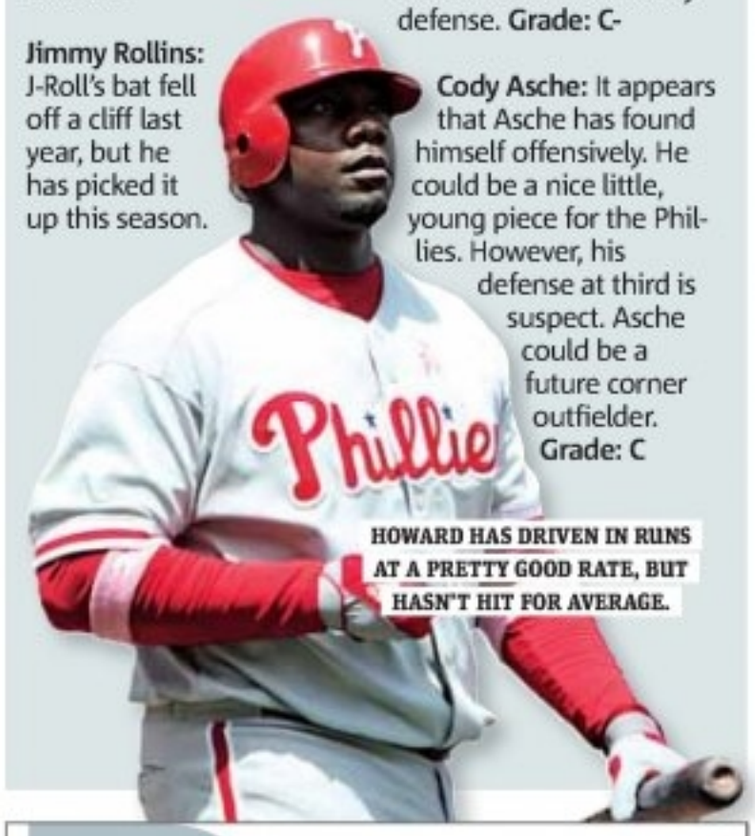
**Chase Utley:** If only Ryne Sandberg could give Chase Utley some rest. Utley started out strong. He looked like the Chase of old in April. The reason behind Utley's rough June is that he's worn out. Utley can still do the job but he needs help. **Grade: B+**

**Carlos Ruiz:** Chooch has been solid when he's been healthy. He has many miles on the odometer, but he always finds a way to help the club. The same goes for Wil Nieves. When he's healthy he's a very good back-up backstop. **Grade: B**

**Jimmy Rollins:** J-Roll's bat fell off a cliff last year, but he has picked it up this season. He'll be just few RBI short of his 2013 total by the break. Rollins is hitting for power again and his glove is still among the elite. **Grade: B-**

**Ryan Howard:** The Big Piece is still productive. If he remains healthy, don't be surprised if he hits 30 homers and drives in 110. However, Howard continues to have trouble with left-handed pitchers, strikes out way too much and is a liability at first base. The Phillies can't afford to give teams extra outs and Howard has done that with his shaky defense. **Grade: C-**

**Cody Asche:** It appears that Asche has found himself offensively. He could be a nice little, young piece for the Phillies. However, his defense at third is suspect. Asche could be a future corner outfielder. **Grade: C**



HOWARD HAS DRIVEN IN RUNS AT A PRETTY GOOD RATE, BUT HASN'T HIT FOR AVERAGE.

## The outfielders

**Marlon Byrd:** Yes, Byrdman strikes out a lot. However, he's been a nice addition and will be a great trade chip. Byrd has been productive at the plate, leading the Phillies in homers. The leader in the clubhouse, Byrd is having a great season defensively. **Grade: B+**

**Ben Revere:** He's heating up at the plate just like he was at this time last season, but Revere rarely walks. Revere wouldn't look so bad if he was dropped in the order to perhaps the 7-hole. He continues to make poor baserunning decisions. **Grade: D+**

**Domonic Brown:** Nobody runs worse routes than Brown. He has been an enigma at the plate. After hitting 23 homers with 67 RBIs at the break last year, Brown has struggled mightily at the dish in terms of power and average. Can the Phillies make a deal to bring Wally Joyner back? **Grade: F**

REVERE HAS SPEED AND RAW TALENT TO BE SURE, BUT IT HAS NOT TRANSLATED TO SUCCESS IN THE OUTFIELD.

Grading the rest

## Shallow bench, costly managing decisions

**Bench:** Little pop or productivity from this crew (except for John Mayberry who could be a valuable trade chip). It's so bad that Sandberg has to think twice about sending out a pinch hitter for Hamels or Burnett. **Grade: D**

Sandberg has had his hands full in the first half of 2014.

**Ryne Sandberg:** The Phillies' manager, in his first full season as skipper, doesn't have the easiest crew to work with. Give Sandberg points for thinking outside of the box. He doesn't manage by the book. It would be nice if he gave some of the veterans a few days off, but when he does that the Phillies have little chance to win. **Grade: C**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# Phillies continue to slide as they visit Milwaukee

**MLB.** The Phillies will face the first-place Brewers while playing their worst baseball of the entire season.

The Phillies are a season-worst 14 games below the .500 mark and were swept by the Pirates for the first time in 12 years Sunday. Could there be a worse time for them to take on the first-place Brewers?

The Phillies have no choice, and will head northwest to take on the Brewers for four games starting Monday night.

Cole Hamels looks to be the slump-buster as he takes the mound in the opener (2-5, 2.98) opposite Marco Estrada (7-5, 4.94).

In Pittsburgh, the Phillies mustered just 11 hits in the three-game set (with four coming in Sunday's finale), and must get their offense in gear if the squad wants to have any hope of taking a few games from the leaders of the NL Central.

Three of those 11 hits came from Marlon Byrd, who hit two homers in the series and leads the Phillies with 18 home runs on the year. His trade stock is rapidly rising.

Cliff Lee is also nearing an opportunity to show his worth, as the lefty participated in his first rehab stint in Clearwater on Sunday afternoon.

Byrd is a rare bright spot for the Phillies with 18 homers.
GETTY IMAGES

EVAN MACY
@evan_macy
evan.macy@metro.us

Pirates 6, Phillies 2

## Phillies swept by Pirates

The Phillies finally scored first.

But it didn't matter, as an early one-run lead wasn't nearly enough to support A.J. Burnett in a 6-2 Phillies' loss in Pittsburgh in Sunday's series finale.

Marlon Byrd had a first-inning RBI and a seventh-inning solo home run, but the Pirates struck Burnett for three runs and the bullpen for three more.

Jimmy Rollins and Cody Asche provided the only other hits as the Phillies' team batting average fell even further to .238, the 27th worst in the big leagues.

Andrew McCutchen had two hits for the Bucs, including an RBI triple in the eighth inning.

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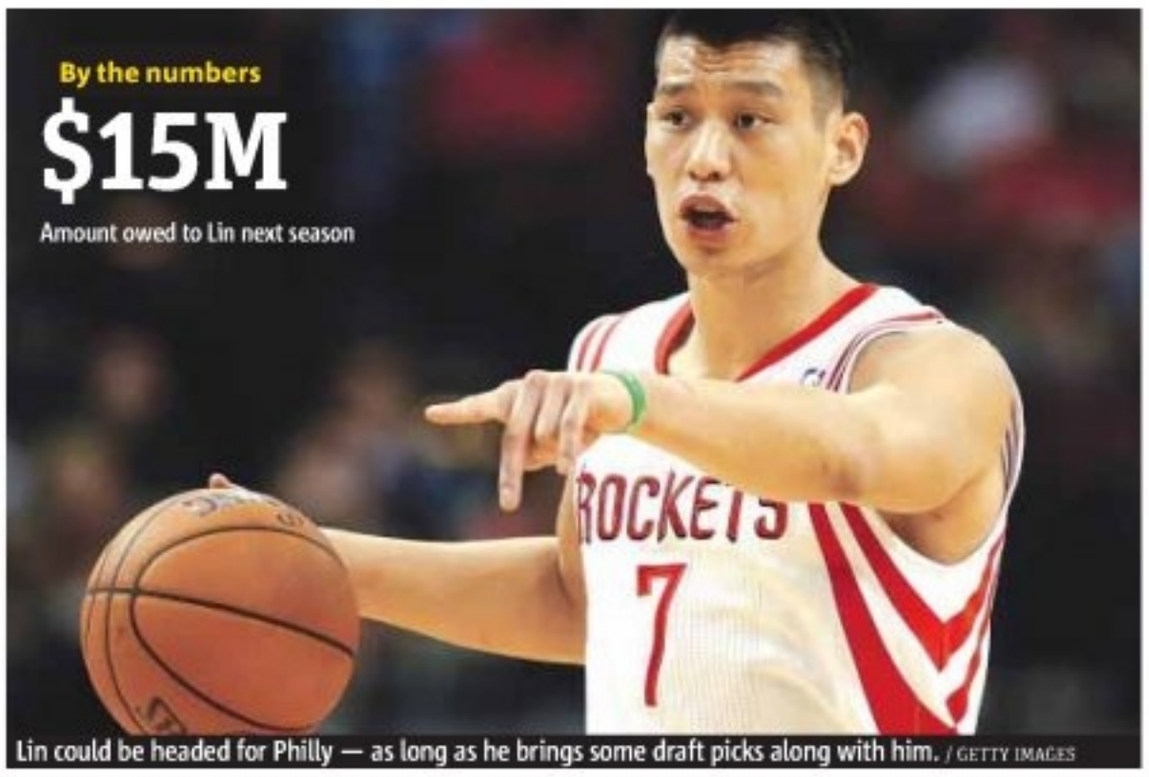

Lin could be headed for Philly — as long as he brings some draft picks along with him. / GETTY IMAGES

# Sixers open to trading for Lin

**NBA.** Linsanity could be headed for the Wells Fargo Center.

The Sixers already have a point guard, Michael Carter-Williams, last year's Rookie of the Year.

But with so much cap space — and roster space to go along with it — the 76ers are sniffing around several veteran pieces, including the Rockets' Jeremy Lin. Of course, with Sam Hinkie at the helm, Philadelphia wants more than just the one-time sensational playmaker, who broke through in New York a few years ago.

According to reports by ESPN, Hinkie wants at least one future first-round draft pick to come along with Lin.

Why would the Rockets do that?

Well, they need cap room if they want to pair Dwight Howard with a superstar like Carmelo Anthony or LeBron James. So the Sixers actually have some leverage, and could maneuver themselves both a dynamic player and some assets to build on.

Lin is owed $15 million next season, with $8.4 million counting toward the salary cap.

**Lin and out**

**Lin is a good point guard, but he isn't a superstar.**

- Last season in Houston, he averaged just over 12 points and 5 assists.
- He's had 19 double-doubles in three seasons.

EVAN MACY
@evan_macy
evan.macy@metro.us

**The first Noel**

## Sixers center Noel rests after big summer debut

After over a year of waiting, speculating and anticipating, Sixers' center Nerlens Noel made his Summer League debut this weekend.

And in his first action as a professional basketball player, Noel was everything the Sixers hoped he would be.

He started with a ferocious slam dunk Saturday, was perfect from the free throw line and led all 76ers scorers with 19 points.

"I was nervous at the beginning, but I seem to play better when I'm a little anxious," Noel said.

He did look a bit winded as the game wound down, which is why the organization decided to let him rest during Sunday's action in Orlando. EVAN MACY

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